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"The rates of interest charged by the Government on loans to ryots are as follows:—

Loans under the Land Improvement Loans Act and the Agriculturists' Loans Act, commonly known as Takkavi loans—5½ per cent.

Loans under the Agriculturists' Loans (Madras Amendment) Act, 1935, for the relief of indebtedness—6¼ per cent."

Sri K. P. MALLIKARJUNUDU:—"May I know, Sir, what are the reasons for the difference in the rates the Government are charging for their borrowers and the rate at which they borrow?"

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"The reasons are that the effective borrowing rate would be higher if the loans are for over 20 or 30 years as some of our loans to the ryots are. The Government loan is for 15 years and those of the ryots are for 20 or 30 years.

"Again, Government do not really make a profit. On the contrary, the working of these loans involves a net charge on the Provincial funds. The actual working of Takkavi system of loans has been examined in detail for a period of 15 consecutive years, and according to the calculations, it was found that to provide for the time and labour spent on the loan-work—apart from the ordinary revenue staff, the cost of additional establishment, all losses on account of the write-offs, suspensions of payment even of interest and payment and re-payment of principal, reduction of rates of interest in special cases—a margin of 4½ per cent between the Government's borrowing rate and lending rate is necessary, if the Government are not to incur any loss in these loan operations."

Sri K. P. MALLIKARJUNUDU:—"May I know what is the position in other Provinces of India?"

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"In Bombay, I can say that even the present reduced rate is much higher than our rate."

Maintenance of survey marks.

* 96 *Q.*—Sri Rao Bahadur M. RAMAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the result of the experiment that was being done in the maintenance of survey marks;

(*b*) what the present number is of survey marks requiring repair or re-planting and what the number of subdivisions to be measured is in the several districts; and

(*c*) with the staff now employed, how long it will take to complete the work?

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" (a) It is not known to which scheme the hon. Member is referring to. Two schemes, viz., (1) maintenance by a survey staff and (2) reduction of the number of maintainable stones in the triangles areas, are still in an experimental stage.

" (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Appendices VI to VIII to the Administration Report relating to Survey, Settlement and the Maintenance of Revenue Records and Registration for the official year 1937–38 which has been published.

" (c) This question cannot be answered as fresh items requiring repairs and renewal are constantly being reported."

Damages caused by cyclone in East and West Godavari and Kistna and relief measures taken.

* 96-A Q.—SRI P. PEDDI RAJU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased—

(a) to place before the House the reports of Collectors of the districts of East Godavari, West Godavari and Kistna regarding the damage caused by the recent cyclone on 25th November; and to state

(b) the extent of the damage caused in each of those districts on account of rain and wind;

(c) the measures adopted for the relief of the people that suffered thereby;

(d) whether the Government have decided to grant remission and if so, to what extent;

(e) whether the Government have sanctioned any additional staff for the detailed investigation of the loss caused thereby; and

(f) whether the Government have recognized that more damage resulted owing to defective drainage in the delta?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" (a) The Government will consider the question of placing the reports on the table of the House as soon as complete reports of damage are received. 11-30 a.m.

" (b) Complete details are not available.

" (c) The Government have sanctioned a grant of Rs. 10,000 to each of the districts of Kistna and West Godavari. A grant of Rs. 3,000 has been made to East Godavari district. The amount will be utilized to relieve real distress. Arrangements were made on the spot by the Collector for the provision of food and the supply of hutting materials where necessary.